



Mr Denis Naughten TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Head of Service Primary Care,
HSE Community Healthcare Organisation
Dublin North City & County,
Ballymun Healthcare Facility,
Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

23rd June 2023

PQ 29127/23 – “To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting a speech and language appointment in CHO9; the breakdown of the time they have been on the waiting list; and if he will make a statement on the matter” – **Denis Naughten TD**

Dear Deputy Naughten

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Within Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) there are approximately 6653 children on the Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) waiting list, as follows:

CHO DNCC Breakdown of length of time Children on Waiting List		
Waiting Initial Assessment: 0-4 months: 815 4-8 months: 841 8-12 months: 588 12-18 months: 180 18-24 months: 3 24+ months: 2	Waiting Initial Therapy: 0-4 months: 657 4-8 months: 439 8-12 months: 384 12-18 months: 256 18-24 months: 81 24+ months: 2	Waiting Further Therapy: 0-4 months: 624 4-8 months: 647 8-12 months: 589 12-18 months: 472 18-24 months: 73 24+ months: 0
Total number of children Waiting Initial Assessment 2429	Total number of children Waiting Initial Therapy 1819	Total number of children Waiting Further Therapy 2405

SALT Primary Care team are looking at clinical pathways, supported by available evidence base, to optimise service delivery. Initiatives to reduce waiting times are underway, including the introduction of early intervention groups, advice clinics and targeted recruitment campaigns.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Tom O'Brien
Head of Service Primary Care